

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) An optical pickup apparatus comprising:

~~an optical pickup that includes~~ an optical pickup base on which a laser light source and an optical system are installed, wherein the optical system includes an objective lens movable in a focusing direction and a tracking direction, and ~~at least one of records~~ information on an optical recording medium or ~~and~~ reproduces information from the optical recording medium with a laser beam from the laser light source;

a supporting frame comprising a pickup carriage that supports the optical pickup base movably in the tracking direction;

a turntable on which the optical recording medium is placed;

a protective cover that is fixed to the supporting frame such that the protective cover is arranged between the optical recording medium placed on the turntable and the optical pickup base, fixed to the supporting frame, and protects the ~~protective cover protecting the pickup carriage optical pickup;~~ and

a heat conducting member that is connected to the optical pickup base and the protective cover, and conducts heat generated in the optical pickup base to the protective cover.

6. (Currently Amended) The optical pickup apparatus according to claim 5, wherein an end of the heat conducting member is connected to ~~any one of a package that accommodates~~ the laser light source on the optical pickup base or a laser holder that holds the laser light source ~~and a holder that holds the package.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The optical pickup apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising an elastic member that presses the heat conducting member, wherein

an end of the heat conducting member is pressed by the elastic member, and fixed to the optical pickup base; and

the other end of the heat conducting member is pressed by the elastic member, thereby making contact with the protective cover.

8. (Currently Amended) The optical pickup apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the heat conducting member is formed as a plate spring arranged between the optical pickup base and the protective cover.

9. (New) The optical pickup apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the protective cover comprises an opening in a portion corresponding to the turntable and a region in which the objective lens moves.